20

5

entered information or the combination of existing content and newly entered information.

When creating new courses and content, a user may reuse or create new content from the smallest unit of information available to the system or may reuse or create new content from higher up in the organizational hierarchy of information within the system. The user has a variety of choices as to style, presentation or type of content (e.g. audio, text or video). Because information can be reused or created at any level in the organizational hierarchy, the system is easy to learn and use and promotes efficiency.

The system and method includes administrative functions to monitor the development of content and the efficient use of the system.

## Brief Description Of The Drawings

Fig. 1 is a diagram of an embodiment of representative hardware for use in the system and method.

Fig. 2 is a diagram of an embodiment of a representative functional architecture for use in the system and method.

Figs. 3-5 are flow diagrams showing embodiments of representative processes for use in the system and method.

Figs. 6-16 are embodiments of representative screen displays for use in the system and method.

## Detailed Description Of The Preferred Embodiment

## 1. Hardware

5

The same from the

11.1

20

Fig. 1 is a representative hardware configuration of the system and method. A user's computer 2 accesses a Web Server 4, which then accesses the database server 8 via a Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) connection 6. The database server determines the user's request and provides the appropriate functionality, and/or storage and response necessary to the user through the Web Server.

Peripheral devices (other than the user's computer 2) may be attached to the servers 4 and 8 for any number of purposes including, but not limited to: printers for output, scanners for input, additional or alternative storage devices for data storage and retrieval, network interfaces for communication, and devices of the like.

Each of the servers 4 and 8 may be based on common programmed computer systems that may include, but are not limited to, components such as: a central processing unit (CPU); and various forms of memory such as, but not limited to: read only memory, random access memory (RAM), and a local storage device. The CPU is electronically coupled to each of the

20

5

central controller's other elements. The CPU comprises at least one high-speed data processor adequate to execute program modules for executing user or system-generated requests.

Preferably, the CPU is a conventional microprocessor. The CPU interacts with RAM, ROM, and storage device(s) to execute stored program code according to conventional data processing techniques.

Each of the servers 4 and 8 have a conventional operating system comprised of executable program code enabling the operation of a centralized controller. The operating system facilitates access of storage devices, I/O, network interfaces devices, peripheral devices, etc. The operating system, once executed by the CPU, interacts with ROM, RAM, I/O, peripheral devices, user input devices, storage devices, communications networks, program modules, and data, etc. Preferably, the operating system includes communication protocols that allow the centralized controller to communicate with other entities through a communications network. As shown in Fig. 1, the preferred protocol is TCP/IP.

As would be appreciated by a person skilled in computer architecture, the functions performed by each of the servers 4 and 8 shown in Fig. 1 could be as consolidated into a single server or could be distributed across multiple serves or